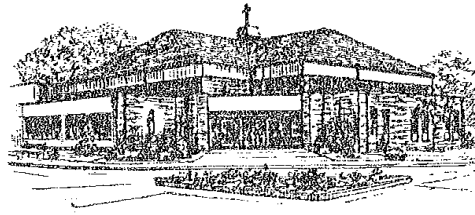


Queen of the Universe

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May 2015

Dear Parishioner:

Nine months ago Immaculate Conception Parish and Queen of the Universe came together to form the New Queen of the Universe Parish. At the time there were many unanswered questions as to how the merger would finally work itself out. Thus far with the Lord's Blessing and your good will things are moving along quite well. That does not mean there have not been a few bumps in the road, but they have been manageable. However there is one "Pot Hole" along the road, **the parking situation**.

Parking at most Churches in Lower Bucks has been a perennial problem and the New Queen has been no exception. This was true before the merger and now it has reached crisis proportions. At this time the Queen consists of well over 3600 families, making it one of the largest in Lower Bucks.

We are most fortunate to have some top notch talent in the parish. They worked together and drew up a proposal which they presented to me and the Parish Councils. It consists of building an additional Parking Lot in a portion of the field next to the exit driveway. The proposed lot would provide new parking for slightly over 80 cars in individually marked spaces. This will certainly take care of our needs on Sunday for Masses. Keep in mind the ordinary family is no longer a single car family and many families take multiple cars and head off in differing directions after Mass. Another plus is the individually marked spaces will be most helpful when there are multiple functions taking place in the Church, or Hall or the Parish Center. You will not be blocked in.

We estimate that the parking lot project will cost \$ 400,000. This includes underground water basins required by State regulations, excavation, black top, lights, fencing, sidewalks etc. To start the project we have \$150,000 on hand from the assets of the combined parishes. We have also arranged for a \$250,000 line of Credit from First National Bank. This, of course, will have to be repaid.

How do we pay for it? By asking all our parish families to prayerfully consider an offering of \$300. This may be paid either as a one time gift, spread over 3 payments of \$100, or 6 payments of \$50. We do ask that you complete your donation within 6 months. If this proves to be a hardship, we ask you to consider increasing your weekly Sunday contribution. The Parking Lot Expansion Project is also available through electronic giving.

Please do all you can, some can do more, some can do less. However if we all contribute something, we can help the New Queen meet the needs of its people.

My sincerest thanks,

Fr. Mike